

SUSAN BYSIEWICZ SECRETARY OF THE STATE CONNECTICUT

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-PRESS RELEASE-

Bysiewicz: This Is It! In Person Voter Registration Deadline is Tuesday October 28th, 8:00 p.m.

SECRETARY OF THE STATE SAYS CITIZENS CAN STILL REGISTER TO VOTE BY GOING IN PERSON TO THEIR LOCAL TOWN HALL BEFORE 8:00PM ON OCT. 28TH

HARTFORD: Secretary of the State Susan Bysiewicz today reminded Connecticut residents that time is running out to register to vote for the November 4th presidential election. Connecticut residents have until Tuesday, October 28th, at 8:00 p.m. to register in person at their local Town Hall.

"This is it; tomorrow is the deadline to register to vote in the most important election since 1932," said Bysiewicz. "Don't be left out of the easiest way to influence the direction of our country. I am urging all eligible Connecticut residents to register to vote, cast a ballot on Election Day, and make a difference."

While the October 28, 2008 is the deadline to register to vote for the overwhelming majority of Connecticut residents there are several exceptions. Anyone who moves within or into Connecticut after October 28th but before November 3rd can still register to vote in person at their local registrar of voters' office. Connecticut residents who become United States citizens between October 28th and November 3rd and Connecticut residents

who become 18 years of age between that time also may register in person at their local registrars of voters' office.

Secretary Bysiewicz recently reported that a surge in new voter registrations has pushed the total number of registered voters in Connecticut to over 2,000,000 – one of the highest such figures in state history. Since January 1, 2008, nearly 220,000 Connecticut residents have become newly registered voters.

The total number of registered voters in Connecticut is 2,021,749. The largest group of registered voters in Connecticut is unaffiliated, accounting for 845,311 voters. There are 750,999 registered Democrats and 418, 531 registered Republicans.

Since the beginning of this year 217,126 Connecticut residents have registered vote. Of those, 92,752 new voters have registered as Democrats, compared to 28,652 new Republican voters and 94,342 new unaffiliated voters.

Once again, young people in Connecticut between the ages of 18 and 29 continue to be the largest group of new voters registering for the November 4th election. Since January 1st, some 91,485 young people have registered to vote. Of those new younger voters, 39,392 have registered as Democrats and 9,959 have registered with the Republican Party and 41,504 have signed up as unaffiliated.

The Office of the Secretary of the State maintains an aggressive voter registration program. As part of her effort to increase voter registration in Connecticut, Secretary Bysiewicz has registered more than 2,500 high school students since the beginning of 2007. The Office of the Secretary of the State and local registrars of voters have conducted more than 300 voting machine demonstrations highlighting the new machines and registering voters. The Office of the Secretary of the State also registers new citizens to vote at naturalization ceremonies across Connecticut.

Visit <u>www.Vote-EZ-CT.com</u> to learn more about Connecticut's optical scan voting machines.